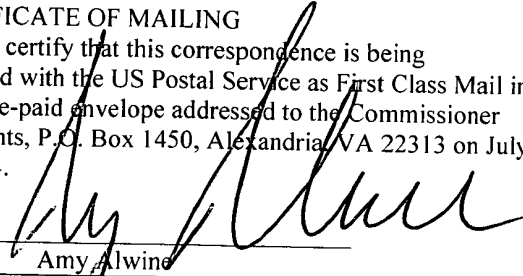


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

<p>In re application of: BASOL et al. Serial No.: 09/961,193 Filed: September 20, 2001 Title: Plating Method and Apparatus for Controlling Deposition on Predetermined Portions of a Workpiece</p>	<p>Group Art Unit: 1753 Examiner: Wong, Edna Docket: 042496/0269244 NT-225-US</p> <p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as First Class Mail in a postage-paid envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on July 15, 2004.</p> <p>Signed:  Amy Alwine</p>
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office action mailed April 15, 2004 with a shortened statutory period for response no later than July 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.